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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF

ALESSI, DARIO ET AL.

APPLICATION NO: 10/823,433

FILED: APRIL 12, 2004

FOR: RAC-PK AS A THERAPEUTIC AGENT OR IN DIAGNOSTICS,

SCREENING METHOD FOR AGENTS AND PROCESS FOR

ACTIVATING RAC-PK

Commissioner for Patents PO Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

Sir:

The Office Action of September 5, 2006 has a shortened statutory time set to expire on December 5, 2006. A three-month extension is hereby requested pursuant to 37 CFR §1.136(a). Applicant responds to the Office Action with the filing of a continuation application.

Please charge Deposit Account No. 19-0134 in the name of Novartis in the amount of \$1020 for payment of the extension fee. An additional copy of this paper is here enclosed. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees under 37 CFR §1.17 which may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Account No. 19-0134 in the name of Novartis.

Respectfully submitted,

Novartis Corporate Intellectual Property One Health Plaza, Building 104 East Hanover, NJ 07936-1080

Date: March 6, 2007

Paul J. Páglferani Attorney For Applicant Reg. No. 52,498

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